

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 5, 27 and 28 have been amended to correct formal matters. No new matter has been added.

Objections and §112 Rejections

The specification has been amended at page 8 to correct formal matters identified by the Examiner.

Claims 5, 6, 10, 27-29 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 5, 27 and 28 have been amended and are now definite.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 2-11 and 23-35 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. 6,520,199 and claims 2-25 of copending Application No. 10/364,288. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution of this application, Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer in which any life of an issued patent resulting from the current application that extends beyond the life of U.S. 6,520,199 and Application No. 10/364,288 is disclaimed.

Priority Claim

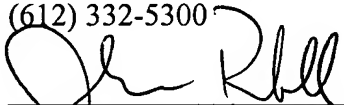
Applicant will file a separate petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) to request a priority claim back to application Serial No. 09/755,316, filed on December 29, 2000 (issued as U.S. 6,520,199).

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance. If a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 27, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joshua N. Randall", is written over a horizontal line.

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JNR:ae